MEN ON MISSION

North Carolina Baptists reaching the world for Christ

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NORTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS RESPOND TO HURRICANE FRAN

Winter 1997

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MEN ON MISSION

On The Cover

Baptists Disaster Relief Feeding Units provided over 500,000 meals to victims of Hurricane Fran. Disaster Relief is one of 13 ministries of N.C. Baptist Men.

N.C. Baptist Men Staff

Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Jimmy Huffman, Lisa Chilson, Lynn Tharrington, Lee Sadler, Fatima Roma, Mary Sue Smith, Kecia Morgan, Sandy Smith, Frank Starnes, Ed and Ann Kanoy

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

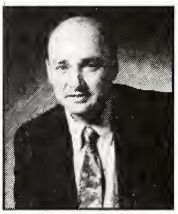
Fran Victims Express Thanks

Over the past few weeks, our office has received numerous thank you notes from people across our state who were helped through N.C. Baptist Men's Disaster Relief Ministry. Here are excerpts from two of those thank you letters:

"Perhaps more important than the physical labor you provided, is how God may be using it to draw people to Himself. We may never know on this earth how your aching muscles, scraped hands, and just plain weary bodies contributed to people's salvation, encouragement, and things with eternal value. I know that our family viewed your help as God's provision for us in our time of need, and we were encouraged! May God richly bless you for helping us all in our time of need and for being available to Him. May He bless your families for allowing you to be away from home and here with us. We are deeply grateful!"

Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, when you did it to the least of these, you did it to me." Matthew 25:39–40

"I would like to share with you two blessings I received following Hurricane Fran's visit to my home in Wilmington. Four men from the First Baptist Church in Asheboro, N.C., showed up at my house. They cleaned my back and front yard of debris. I lost a huge oak tree. The men brought all their equipment and were able to clear my yard in one day. I did not know that Baptists had a disaster relief crew like this. They were a blessing to me. I am single (47 years old) and my mother (91 years old) is homebound, and we are members of Winter Park Baptist in Wilmington. I was without phone service for five days and lights for six days. My second blessing came when the Red Cross set up a food shelter at our church in the parking lot. A number of our church members, including our pastor, Michael Tutterow, helped serve delicious meals every day, three times a day for about two weeks. Mother and I ate from this shelter for about a week until we got our power back on. I never knew that my mission offering helped fund hurricane relief. My house was not damaged. My mother and I were kept safe in the storm. I am so proud to be a Baptist and I pray everyday for God to continue to bless people like you and all the others who help people like me in times of disaster. Thank you so very much!"



Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, when you did it to the least of these, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:39–40).

Richard Brunson

What Are You Worth?

MAURICE COOK, NCBM PRESIDENT

What are you worth? When asked this question, we are likely to answer in tangible terms with a financial net worth figure or by stating a significant role we have in a business or an organization. However, our sense of self-worth depends on how we view ourselves. There is a "lens" through which others look at us, and there is a "lens" through which God looks at us. We have the choice of seeing ourselves either in light of the way secular society sees us or the way the Eternal Lord sees us.

Society's concept of worth may be called instrumental value. It's based on what we have, what we do, what we achieve. We are evaluated by our economic level, the status we have in our work, the kind of power we have over other people, and the sort of career achievement we have experienced. In short, if we have money, status, power, or any of the other marks of "success," we have value. If we don't have any of these things, we are perceived as having little value.

This societal perspective can have a profound detrimental impact on one's self-esteem. All of us want to succeed and to be highly regarded by those with whom we work and associate. But most of us have experienced setbacks and disappointments that deflate our self-esteem. The problem is particularly acute for Christians who, with that identity, already find themselves the target of demeaning criticism from several sectors of society. Failure to reach the top in a business, profession, or other activity only intensifies the feeling of self-deprecation. How does a Christian deal with this issue?

In the eyes of God, there is another kind of human worth we may call intrinsic or inherent value. We have intrinsic value because God created us. Period. No other reason is necessary. The psalmist describes beautifully our relationship to God and all of His creation:

We have intrinsic value because God created us. Period. No other reason is necessary. The psalmist describes beautifully our relationship to God and all of His creation.

"When I look at the sky, which You have made—at the moon and the stars, which You set in their places,

What is man, that you think of him; mere man, that you care for him?

You have created him just a little lower than the angels, and crowned him with glory and honor.

You appointed him ruler over everything You made; You placed him over all creation: sheep, cattle, and the wild animals, too; the birds and the fish and the creatures in the sea.

O Lord, our Lord, your greatness is seen in all the world!!" *(Psalm 8:3–9).*

The lofty position we hold in the hierarchy of creation does not entitle us to be proud. In fact, it should humble us. The God Who created us is an awesome Being! We are just one element in the mind-boggling universe He created and controls. We did not earn the authority to be stewards of what He created. It is a gift laden with responsibility from Him! But when we are prone to be down on ourselves and wonder how one person can have value among six billion other human beings on the face of the earth, let us reflect on Psalm 139:14:

"I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are Thy works, and my soul knows it very well."

We have intrinsic value not only because God created us but also because He has redeemed us through Christ Jesus. We have incredible worth because of the price Jesus paid for us, the highest price for any transaction that was ever paid. Price and value are connected, so we have infinite value as a creature of His. We are the ones whom God has created and regenerated in Christ. Therefore, we have greater cause than anyone for high self-esteem. We should be grateful and rejoice in this. And, furthermore, it should be a springboard into living a life of service and devotion to Him!!!

1997 North Carolina Baptist Missions Conference And Baptist Men's Convention In Greensboro On Jan. 31–Feb. 1

Chuck Colson

Taylor Field

Chuck Colson, founder and chairman of the board of Prison Fellowship International and renowned author, will be the keynote speaker at the 1997 North Carolina Baptist Missions Conference and Baptist Men's Convention, January 31–February 1, at First Church, Greensboro. Joining Colson, will be Roy Smith, Executive Director of the Baptist State Convention; Sara Thrash, inspirational speaker who will share her testimony on family needs and concerns, Jefferson City, Tennessee; Tom & Seus, who will present the Gospel through their semi-silent theatre ministry, and Taylor Field, director of Graffiti Ministry in New York.

AGENDA:

Friday evening, January 31—
First Church, Greensboro

5:30 to 7:00—Supper, highlighting the work of Prague and Ukraine volunteers

7:30—Opening General Session, featuring Roy Smith, Tom and Seus, and Ukraine and Prague testimonies.

Saturday, February 1—
First Church, Greensboro

9:00 to 11:00— General Session, featuring Taylor Field and Sara Thrash

11:10 to 12 noon—Mission Action Conferences

12 noon—Lunch served from the Disaster Relief Unit (donations will be received)

12 noon to 3:00 p.m.—View Mission Fair exhibits

1:00 to 1:50—Mission Action Conferences

2:00 to 2:50—Mission Action Conferences

3:00 to 5:00—General Session, featuring Chuck Colson

5:00 to 6:30— Supper, highlighting the work of Hurricane Fran volunteers.

Tom and Seus

Convention concludes with supper on Saturday evening.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

The hotels below have agreed to give a special convention rate for the Baptist Missions Conference/Baptist Men's Convention. You will need to make your own hotel reservation directly with the one of your choice. Be sure to ask for the special Baptist State Convention rate. Other hotels are available in the Greensboro area, and you should feel free to choose any you like.

AmeriSuites, located Exit 214 (Wendover)—$59 plus tax per room (breakfast included); (910) 852–1443.

Comfort Inn, located Exit 217 (Four Seasons)—$55 plus tax per room (breakfast included); (910) 294–6220.

Park Lane Hotel, located Exit 217 (Four Seasons)—$71 plus tax per room; (910) 294–4565.

COST:

No registration fee will be charged. An offering will be received Friday night and Saturday to help offset the program expense.

$7.50—Friday supper focusing on Prague & Ukraine Partnerships

$7.50—Saturday supper focusing on Hurricane Fran Volunteers

The meeting is open to all Baptist men and women, not just members of a church Brotherhood organization. Please register by using the reservation

N.C. Baptist Missions Conference and Baptist Men's Convention Reservation Form

Complete and return by January 17. Please make check payable to NCBM and mail to PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512-1107.

Name_____

Address_____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone ( )_____ Work Phone ( ) _____

_____ @ $7.50 per person—Friday supper, First Church, Greensboro

_____ @ $7.50 per person—Saturday Supper, First Church, Greensboro

Total Enclosed $_____

No registration fee will be charged. Offering will be received to offset expenses.

"40 Ways To Thank Your Pastor"

Oftentimes congregations take pastors and ministerial staff for granted. Some church members may never express their appreciation to them. Yet, the ministers need to hear expressions of thankfulness and love from their congregations.

Now, North Carolina Baptist Men has developed a unique way for church members to remember to thank their ministers. "40 Ways to Thank Your Pastor" is filled with practical ways that individuals, families, and congregations can minister to those who minister to them. It is no bigger than a postcard and is magnetized to be placed on the refrigerator as a constant reminder that ministers need to hear from their church members.

The ideas in "40 Ways" came from pastors themselves and, in the booklet, the suggestions are directed toward pastors. However, they can easily be adapted for all church staff members, male and female.

We believe this simple tool will make a difference in the life of our churches. Therefore, we encourage you to order one of these for each household in your congregation. You may use the order form on the back of this issue or call us toll free (800) 395–5102, ext. 331.

Mission Statement

The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help N.C. churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- *enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities*
- *encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries*
- *educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities*
- *teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions*
- *lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.*

BAPTIST MEN'S DAY IS JANUARY 26

Use the form on the back page to request information that will assist you in the preparation and observance of Baptist Men's Day in your church.

Recognize and Thank Your Church WMU

February 9–15, 1997 is Woman's Missionary Union Focus Week in our churches. North Carolina Baptist Men's office is encouraging church Baptist Men's groups to do something during this week to recognize and express appreciation to your church WMU members. Consider providing a special banquet or breakfast to thank WMU members for their vital contributions to missions education, support, and involvement.

ExAlt! – Exciting Alternative For New Year's Eve

The North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell) will host ExAlt!, a New Year's Eve Celebration, December 31, 1996–January 1, 1997. The overnight celebration promises the best in Christian inspiration, praise, and worship.

Randy Kilby, president of Fruitland Bible Institute, and Buddy Freeman, dean of admissions at Gardner-Webb University, will speak during the weekend. Musicians Dana Joy and Russel Johnson will lead contemporary praise songs as well as old favorites.

Robbie Mustoe of Lumberton will return with another action-packed program for teenagers, including games, music, and several other surprises.

There'll be plenty of music, fun, and laughter for people of all ages. The cost is $40 per adult, $37 per youth. For more information, contact the Assembly at (910) 278–9501.

MANDATE And N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual Available

The *N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual* is designed to inform, inspire and involve. The *Owner's Manual* gives practical ideas on how to have an effective missions program in your church. It is filled with stories about N.C. Baptist men and women who are involved in a variety of missions projects. The *Owner's Manual* also provides 12 easy-to-use, ready-to-go monthly Baptist Men's or co-ed missions programs. Each of these 12 programs is built around a special video segment included on the MANDATE missions video magazine.

MANDATE, produced by the Baptist State Convention, is a monthly video program. MANDATE is mailed quarterly, and includes three monthly programs on each tape. MANDATE includes stories on state missions as well as foreign and home missions.

The *N.C. Baptists' Owner's Manual* provides suggestions for a good Baptist Men's meeting, including information and discussion questions to precede and follow the showing of the video segment.

The cost to subscribe to MANDATE is $20 per year (this is for all four video tapes). One copy of the *Owner's Manual* is included with each subscription to MANDATE. Additional copies of the *Owner's Manual* can be purchased for $4 per manual. Subscription information is below. Order a copy for each of the men in your church.

Our goal is not to push programs; our goal is to involve men in missions. This video and *Owner's Manual* is a new and different method, but we believe that it will be an excellent way to inform, inspire and involve the men and women of your church in doing missions.

MANDATE MISSIONS VIDEO MAGAZINE ORDER CARD

I wish to subscribe to the MANDATE missions video magazine (12 monthly programs mailed quarterly and one *Owner's Manual*) for only $20 per year.

❑ New subscription ❑ Renewal of subscribtion

❑ I have included a check for $20 for the MANDATE subscription.

❑ Please bill me.

Please send me _____ additional copies of the *OWNER'S MANUAL* at $4 per copy. *(Includes shipping charges)*

❑ I have included a check for $_____ ❑ Please bill me.

Make check payable to: Baptist State Convention. Send to Public Relations, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

Please type or print:

Name_____

I am a member of _____ (church/city/association)

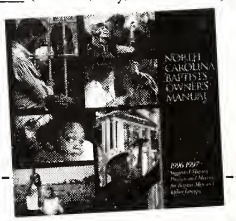
Leadership position_____

Daytime phone ( ) _____

Where would you like to receive MANDATE?

Address_____

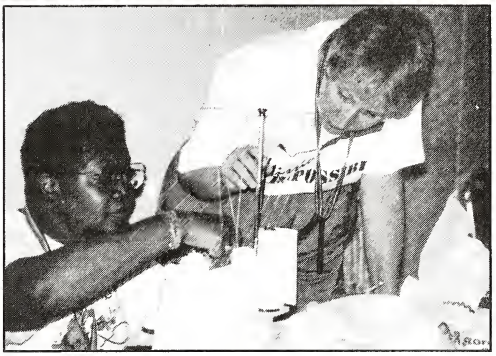
City/State/Zip_____



NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN, PO BOX 1107, CARY, NC 27512–1107

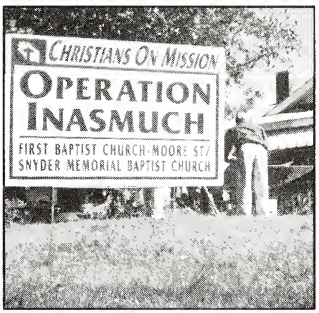
'Hands On' Mission Workshop In Fayetteville

On March 21–23, 1997, N.C. Baptist Men and Snyder Church, Fayetteville will co-sponsor a "Hands On" volunteer workshop. This weekend will emphasize training lay leaders to start hands on mission projects through their churches to the community. Friday night will begin with dinner and a background of how Snyder started "Operation Inasmuch" in Fayetteville and how you can do the same in your community. On Saturday the participants will go out on the field with Snyder members and see how they do what they do! On Sunday, we will have a celebration together and a commissioning of sorts to each of the participants to go back to their churches and train their church to serve in their own community. The registration fee is $10, and we have reserved a certain amount of rooms at a hotel in Fayetteville at a low rate. Deadline for registration is March 1, 1997. For additional information, check the appropriate item on the back of this issue or call Lisa Chilson at (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102, ext. 333. Spaces are limited to two persons per church and 100 persons total, so get your reservations in soon!



Snyder Memorial Church and First Church-Moore Street, Fayetteville women sew blankets for the homeless.

First Church-Moore Street, Fayetteville members are building a wheel chair ramp.



Baptist Men Hats, Baptist Men, Royal Ambassador, And Challengers T-shirts Available

White T-shirts with the NCBM logo are available at a cost of $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes available are: adult large, adult x-large, adult xx-large.

The Royal Ambassador (grades 1–6) T-shirts are an attractive light blue which features the Royal Ambassador logo in a colorful design. The RA motto and "North Carolina" are also prominently displayed. The cost is $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes available are: boys 14–16, adult small, adult medium, adult large, adult extra large.

Royal Ambassador shirts in previous designs have been reduced to $4 each plus $2 shipping per order.

Challengers (grades 7–12) T-shirts are available in the ashe color at a cost of $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes available are: adult small, adult medium, adult large, adult extra large.

NCBM hats with the embroidered "Serve in Christ's Spirit" logo are available in black, teal, forest green, burgundy, purple, and navy. The cost is $7 each plus $2 shipping per order.

Please use the form on the back page to place your order.

Summer Ministry Opportunities

Do you know college students who are interested in missions and would like to have a summer ministry experience? The Baptist State Convention offers a variety of opportunities for students to serve in some kind of ministry setting during the summer.

There are opportunities available for service throughout North Carolina, in other states and in other countries. There are opportunities to work camps, churches, resort areas and the inner city. There are opportunities to work with children and youth, to do physical labor, to sing, and to be involved in ministry through recreation.

If you know a college student who would benefit from one of these summer experiences, why not start the process to receive an application and more information by writing: Student Summer Ministries, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512; (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 316.

Possible Opportunities:

Camp Caraway (counselors for boys); Camp Mundo Vista (counselors for girls); Caswell (students to fill a variety of staff positions); Evangels (four-member youth revival team); Language (students with Spanish skills); WARM (resort ministry in the Wilmington area); Witness (Christian music team); Youth Corps (youth minister in a local church); BSU Funded Ministries (a variety of ministries in state, out of state, and out of country with children and youth, in the inner city and other challenging locations).

N.C. Baptist Men And Royal Ambassadors On The Internet

North Carolina Baptist Men's office has a home page on the internet. A temporary web site is up and running while the full web site is being developed. Surf in to Baptist Men at www.ncmissions.org

"Unto the Least of These..."

THE MATTHEW 25 FUNDS

MISSION SUPPORT FUNDS FOR NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN'S MINISTRIES

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you...'"

They are called the Matthew 25 Funds and their purpose is to be a vital tool for enabling North Carolina Baptists to minister to people in need. You are invited to participate by giving of your financial resources.

"When did we see you sick..."

What Are the Matthew 25 Funds?

The Matthew 25 Funds consist of five different funds. Three of these are essentially reserve funds that can be used as needed for the Medical/Dental Bus, Disaster Relief or Special Ministries. The other two are permanent endowment funds for NCBM Missions and Ministry or Camp Scholarship Endowments. You can choose to give to one or more of these funds.

Who Do I Contact To Get Specific Information About These Five Funds Or To Make My Gift?

For specific information about these funds, contact the North Carolina Baptist Men office at (800) 395-5102, extension 323 or 325. A brochure and a videotape are available explaining each of the funds in more detail.

Gifts are tax deductible and should be made to: The North Carolina Baptist Foundation, Inc. For further information about making a gift and how to include the Matthew 25 Funds in your will and other estate plans, contact the Baptist Foundation at (800) 521–7334.

We will continue to reach out to this lost world around us. With your continued support and God's light, love, and grace, North Carolina Baptist Men will march on to minister to the least of these and, in so doing, touch the heart of God.

"...AND THE KING WILL ANSWER AND SAY TO THEM, 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.'" Matthew 25:37-40 NIV

Reaching The Hungry

If the world consisted of 100 people:

- *67 would be poor.*
- *50 would be homeless or live in substandard housing.*
- *50 would be without adequate, safe, drinking water.*
- *47 would be illiterate.*
- *35 would be hungry and malnourished.*
- *6 would be Americans, and would hold 33 percent of the world's entire income.*
- *1 person would have a college education.*

The majority of the world's most destitute men and women, boys and girls, are rural folk. They are more difficult to reach than those who live in densely populated urban areas. Nevertheless, opportunities to serve the Lord in missions to rural families do exist, and you can be involved! Let me describe one such mission for you.

The Ramon Magsaysay Rural Development Institute is the result of several years' prayerful efforts to meet the needs of out-of-school rural youth in the Philippines. The young people will be selected to represent the poor families in their village and spend 12 weeks of intensive training in appropriate technologies, food production, and community health. These youth are to be admitted without regard to their race or religion, but simply because they and their neighbors are in great need. Each day, each student will receive "values training"...taught from the Bible by dedicated Christian workers!

Sharon and I leave in January, 1997, to build this training institute. Property and funds for construction and initial operations are in place. We believe the Lord will provide the support necessary for our family. During the next two years we would welcome your participation in a short-term mission to the Ramon Magsaysay Rural Development Institute. The work of many craftsmen and professionals is needed to see the project succeed. Most importantly, your prayers will sustain us in this effort.

Additional overseas opportunities, such as demonstration farms in the Caribbean Basin and Eastern Europe, are under consideration by our Agricultural Missions ministry. In North Carolina, the NCBM Demonstration Farm in Buies Creek produces seeds and gathers information to assist missionaries and development workers worldwide. (Farm manager Gene Hickman welcomes your visit!)

I am deeply grateful for the privilege of participating in the ministry of North Carolina Baptist Men. All of you—staff, volunteers, members, men and boys, spouses and siblings—have enriched my life beyond measure. In times of doubt and fatigue, the Lord has used many of you to encourage me in the faith and in the work. I undertake the labors of the next two years with a sense of being sent by you. May the joy of the Lord continue to be our strength!

Stephen Hughes
State Agriculture Mission Coordinator
P.O. Box 65
Burgaw, N.C. 28425
(910) 259-5925

AVIATION MISSIONS

Aviation Ministry

I hope you have a chance to see the new video about Hurricane Fran and the great work our Disaster Relief teams were doing there. It was produced by the video department at our convention office and is excellent. You may remember the aerial views in the video of the damage and destruction of the homes on the coast. You may also wonder how they got up there for the footage.

Paul Wilson, Disaster Relief coordinator, called me early one morning and asked if our ministry could possibly help them to get an aerial video made of the damage before the bulldozers moved in to clear the beaches of all the destroyed houses and debris. The first pilot in our ministry that we called for the request was available and agreed to help. That very day, Gene Branson flew to Raleigh to pick up the film crew, on to the coast for the video, and back to Raleigh the same evening, completing the mission in record time!

Gene is no stranger to Baptist Men or Disaster Relief. He has flown numerous flights for disaster teams and other mission trips the past few years. His business is flying a corporate Citation Jet and he uses his own Cessna 210 for charter trips and a lot of mission work! Gene loves the Lord and is always looking for places of service. NCBM is fortunate to have men like Gene helping to develop our aviation ministry. Thanks Gene!

We will be meeting with Ed Boyer, the executive vice president of Air Care Alliance (a nationwide network of charitable aviators), and president of Mercy Medical Airlift of Virginia, on October 26. Mr. Boyer informed me during our first phone conversation that he is a Brother Christian and considers his work as his ministry. He said that he loves to help aviation-type ministries get started off on the right foot, saving them a lot of wasted time with start-up mistakes. The next issue should report the interesting and invaluable results this meeting will produce.

Our aviation ministry is growing each week as aviation-interested people hear about this new ministry and call wanting to know more about it and how they can be involved. You can help by making sure any interested people in your church or association know how to contact us. Or, you can send us their address and we will contact them. They don't have to be pilots, just interested in aviation and using it in some way to serve our Lord.

Terry Closner with the Prison Fellowship (and also a member of our aviation ministry) came up with an idea for our ministry which we will consider at our next meeting: providing air transportation to Camp Angel Tree for the kids that different churches sponsor. Camp Angel Tree is a week of summer camp at Camp Caraway for boys whose parents are prison inmates. A pilot helped with transportation to camp last year, and he said it added a special treat for the campers, their first plane ride. Sounds like a good chance for witnessing to me, and I hope we can work out a way for more pilots to help next summer.

Bob Foy
State Aviation Coordinator
2323 The Plaza
Charlotte, N.C. 28507
(704) 376-0824 work
(704) 664-6422 home

SPORTS IN MISSIONS

Needed: Sports-minded Christian Coaches And Young Men With A Heart For Missions

1997 offers many opportunities for ministry and missions through sports. We have requests from South Africa and China for basketball teams. We have requests from St. Lucia and Comoros Islands for soccer teams. We also have requests for track coaches for the Comoros and baseball coaches for South Africa. There are also opportunities to do sports evangelism in N.C. All of the above requests are being investigated and specific details will be available around Jan. 1. Check the appropriate item on the back of this issue to request registration information.

Gary Bowne
State Sports in Missions Coordinator
237 32nd Avenue, NW
Hickory, N.C. 28601
(704) 327-6282

Soccer mission team to Comoros.

CORRECTIONAL MINISTRIES

Community Service Projects Reach People For Christ

Baptist Men are privileged to have many wonderful opportunities for participation in Correctional Ministries. First, volunteer churches are needed for Project Angel Tree, a Christmas gift-giving program for children of inmates. Here's how it works: church volunteers set up a Christmas tree and decorate it with paper angels upon which are written the gift requests of the children. Church members then choose angels and purchase presents. The presents are given to the children at a church-sponsored party or delivered to the home by volunteers. Your church will enjoy participating in this wonderful ministry of selfless giving. For more information, call Prison Fellowship at (800) 926–2196.

The 1997 Baptist Men's Convention will feature Charles Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship Ministries International. Chuck is the author of many books, the recipient of the prestigious Templeton Award for Religion, and one of the foremost Christian leaders of our time. Let me encourage you to make plans to attend the convention to be held at First Church, Greensboro, on January 31–February 1. For more information, use the form on the back page.

Let me take this opportunity to commend the many volunteers who participated in three Community Service Projects this year. The projects were held in Black Mountain, Concord, and Raleigh. In each project, homes of those in need were renovated by volunteers from the Baptist Men, Prison Fellowship, and inmates from nearby correctional facilities.

Camp Angel Tree was a tremendous success again this year. Camp Caraway hosted 84 boys this year, many of whom had never attended a summer camp. Fun, fellowship, and spiritual encouragement provided a wonderful experience for these children of N.C. inmates. Thanks go to the many churches who sponsored boys to Camp Angel Tree. I am confident that your investment in the lives of the young boys will continue to have an impact for many years to come.

Johnny Henderson
State Correctional Ministries Coordinator
P.O. Box 499
Seagrove, N.C. 27341
(910) 873–7995

DISASTER RELIEF

North Carolina Baptist Relief Efforts Bring The Gospel To Life After Hurricane Fran

BY KELLI WILLIAMS

The North Carolina Baptist Men Disaster relief feeding unit at Winter Park Baptist Church in Wilmington, N.C., prepared more than 185,000 meals for the victims of Hurricane Fran. Baptist clean-up and repair crews cleared trees and storm debris from hundreds of homes, businesses, and city streets along the southeastern N.C. coast.

They're impressive numbers, but statistics can't tell the real story. Only the people who were there can do that. And they're saying that Hurricane Fran showed them that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the real story.

"I woke up Saturday morning after the hurricane and the N.C. Baptist Men had just arrived at our church—only 36 hours after the storm hit us. I didn't have any electricity so there was no reason to stay home and every reason to help them," said Mary Ellen Benton, member of Winter Park, who volunteered at the Baptist Men feeding unit for more than a week working in cooperation with the Red Cross, Salvation Army, National Guard, and other relief organizations. Benton says she saw the Gospel come alive for hundreds of people united by a common tragedy. Many were homeless, most had extensive wind and water damage, and all knew their community would never be the same—not because of Hurricane Fran, but because of what they found in each other.

"The Baptist Men's work was a powerful witness," said Michael Tutterow, Winter Park's senior pastor who helped coordinate the teams arriving from all over North Carolina as well as Florida, Georgia, Virginia, and other neighboring states. "Scripture is filled with images of Jesus caring for hungry, hurting people. I think that kind of compassion communicates to people that the Gospel is real stuff."

So real, in fact, that on Sunday, September 22, nearly 200 people attended Winter Park's new "seeker-sensitive" service called "The Open Door." Although the worship time's starting date had been planned since early spring, only the Lord knew how truly open the Wilmington community would be to the service's message.

Doris Coats, member of Winter Park, retired RN, and feeding unit volunteer, spent her days serving food and invitations to the service. "We just wanted to share a little sunshine and a little of God's love. Many of the volunteers also had property damage but they were still doing their part to help somebody else. It made an impression on the people, because when I went to the first Open Door service, I saw a lot of people there who had come through the feeding lines."

"This is church happening," said Claude Allison, who logged more than 100 hours at the Winter Park feeding unit which served 1200–1500 people a day on site in addition to preparing meals for the Red Cross to distribute around the area. "This is what God wants us to do—show His love to others."

As volunteers spread the Word of God through love and action, the Baptist Men spread it literally. Hundreds of Bibles and tracts supplied through the North Carolina Missions Offering, as were all the Baptist Men's efforts, were distributed through the feeding units to hurricane victims who received them gratefully. "People were so vulnerable. They were at a lose," said Mary Margaret Brooks, church and community missions director at the Wilmington Baptist Association. "It was a good time not just for feeding them physically, but spiritually as well."

Ronald Poythress, pastor of Carolina Beach Baptist Church, found himself on the receiving end of that effort. Hurricane Fran's driving rains had filled his church's basement fellowship hall, and as the water climbed higher it backed up the sewer lines leading into the hall, causing them to flow into, rather than out of, the building. But in less than seven hours, a team of Baptist Men from Brunswick County, N.C., had cleaned and sanitized the church. "Our members had to secure their own homes after the storm, so the church would have had to wait, but these men filled in the gap," said Poythress, who moved to coastal N.C. less than a year ago and is experiencing his first hurricane season. "They gave of their time, energy, resources, and skills to support us and save our church. I'm overwhelmed with gratitude."

Story after story of tragedy and despair turned into hope surfaced as the Lord worked through the Baptist disaster relief teams. Brooks remembers a young couple and their 13 month old child who were homeless because of the storm. A tree had completely destroyed their mobile home, the young wife was pregnant and nearly due, and they had no place to go. So they came to Winter Park looking for help. Brooks called dozens of area hotels but all were either too badly damaged or full of construction workers and utility repair people from other areas. Finally, another volunteer located a room where the couple stayed until they received assistance from the Red Cross. Brooks said they'll be back soon to meet with her. "This was an opportunity for us to show God's love to strangers, just like the Bible says. And it's not over yet," she said. "Winter Park only closed their feeding unit on September 22. We're still restoring homes, but there are so many needs out there. We're going to be in process for a long time."

That's fine with Betty Nance and her husband, Carl. As volunteers with Baptist men, Betty and Carl, who are members of Derita Baptist Church near Charlotte, N.C., have made three trips to the coastal areas to assist with the feeding and clean-up. "Our involvement with Baptist disaster relief began in 1992 when Hurricane Andrew struck south Florida," said Betty Nance. "I didn't know why, but I felt called to help. I'd never done anything like this before, but the Lord said plainly, 'Go.' So we did." Before they began serving with the Hurricane Fran effort three weeks ago, the Nances also worked with victims of Hurricane Bertha, which hit the same area in mid-July. "People ask me, 'Why do you do this?'," she said. "We have to sleep on the floor with no power and water dripping from ceiling cracks all around us. We work 18–22 hour days in the heat, humidity, mosquitoes, and flies. We saw destruction at every turn, but we also saw the Lord work in incredible ways. That's our reward."

One example Nance remembered was when a team of Baptist Men left the base unit to clear debris and trees from the home of an 82 year old woman. They

Making Life For Older Adults...

The Best Of Times!

Week of Prayer: February 2-9, 1997

North Carolina Offering for Older Adults

Goal: $450,000

BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES
OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

Making The Most Of Your Retirement

An Interview With Pat Swann, Trustee, Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Inc.

Retirees in America today are healthier and more active than ever, according to experts on aging. Many Older Adults are enjoying new lifestyles and even starting new careers in retirement. A little planning and a commitment to good health go a long way toward ensuring that your retirement years live up to their full potential. This year, our Week of Prayer articles focus on the elements that will help you make the most of your retirement years, from continued spiritual growth to choosing the right place to live, and much more.

Pat Swann, BRH Trustee

When it comes to choosing a retirement community, Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina Inc. (BRH) is the top choice of many Older Adults. With four retirement centers throughout the state—the Brookridge Retirement Community in Winston-Salem, the Western North Carolina Baptist Home in Asheville, the Taylor House in Albemarle and the Hamilton Baptist Home in Hamilton, and numerous community-based services, BRH offers retirees a way of life especially suited to their individual needs. From independent and assisted living to full nursing care, from home care to nursing and therapy services, BRH is dedicated to providing Older Adults and their families with the help they need.

> *"Baptist Retirement Homes is continually looking for ways to strengthen our service to retirees," says BRH Trustee Pat Swann. "As the needs of the Older Adult population change, this organization is deeply committed to making sure those needs are met. Our mission is broad, but there's a real vision behind it."*

Baptist Retirement Homes is supported through the generous gifts of North Carolina Baptists, allowing us to expand and maintain our range of service to Older Adults and their families, as well as offer care to those in need. When you make a gift to the **North Carolina Offering for Older Adults**, your gifts help to bridge the gap between the cost of quality care and the amount which some people can pay. The fact is, even with sound planning, the cost of health care in retirement may escalate beyond what many individuals can pay.

Our goal for this year's Special Offering is $450,000. Your gifts contribute directly toward making life "The Best of Times" for the Older Adults we serve through the ministry of Baptist Retirement Homes. We hope this special publication will help as you consider your own retirement needs, and that you will extend your most generous support to help others.

Choosing The Right Place To Live

An Interview With Lena Hobbs, Brookridge Retirement Community Resident

For Lena Hobbs, a retired teacher and school administrator, choosing where to live in retirement was an easy decision. Although she had lived in Florida for 30 years, she knew she wanted to be near her brother in Winston-Salem. And having moved 21 times in 34 years, the prospect of relocating didn't faze her in the least.

For most retirees, the key to a successful move lies in doing your homework—having a good sense of what a new community has to offer, how you'll fit in, and whether it meets your needs and desires. With so many choices now available to retirees, creating a list of priority considerations will help you focus on important issues. For Mrs. Hobbs, now a resident at the Brookridge Retirement Community, family proximity and the availability of health care topped her list of requirements, simplifying her choices. Other issues retirees would be well-advised to consider include:

Lena Hobbs, Brookridge Resident

- **Finances.** Examine your long-term financial needs relative to your assets. Retirement communities vary widely in costs. Just as with any major investment, you should comparison shop to make sure you're getting the best value for your money.
- **Community.** Get a sense of the rapport among retirement community residents by staying for several meals. What are the people like? Does the community provide intellectual challenges, as well as physical and recreational activities?
- **Administration.** How accessible and responsive is the staff? How long has the organization that operates the community been in business?
- **Health Care.** What kind of help is available in the community? Will you have priority admission should you need nursing care? What are the costs?

"I think there's a real advantage to moving at a point when you can still make friends and participate in activities," says Mrs. Hobbs. "The right community can help you remain independent as you grow older. When I saw Brookridge, I knew this was for me. There was a wide scope of interesting people and plenty to do. Honestly, I believe the Lord led me here."

Even with 21 moves behind her, Mrs. Hobbs isn't sure she's finished moving yet. "I may move from my garden home to one of the Brookridge apartments some day," she says. "They're just beautiful!"

Taking Charge Of Your Health

An Interview With Paul McGann, Clinical Director, J. Paul Sticht Center on Aging, Bowman Gray/Baptist Hospital Medical Center

In spite of all the talk we hear about health and fitness, all too many Americans today fall into the "couch potato" category. A sedentary lifestyle is bad news at any age, but it takes a special toll on Older Adults. The good news, however, is that it's never too late to take charge of your health.

Paul McGann

"Retirement is a golden opportunity to start a healthy lifestyle," says Paul McGann, M.D., Clinical Director of the J. Paul Sticht Center on Aging at Bowman Gray/Baptist Hospital Medical Center. "It's a time when you're naturally shifting the focus of how you live. Focusing on creating healthy habits helps smooth the transition from work to retirement, and implementing a healthy lifestyle offers tremendous benefits in terms of how you feel, both physically and emotionally."

For most people, particularly those 50 and over, lifestyle factors play a critical role in maintaining health. "We spend a lot of time counseling people to lose weight and to get regular exercise," says Dr. McGann. "Together they can be a key to longevity."

What kind of exercise is best for Older Adults? It's important to choose an exercise program that you'll stick with, advises Dr. McGann. Most people gain substantial benefits from non-vigorous exercise such as walking. With your doctor's okay, you may want to explore additional options, such as weight training or aerobics. "Getting started can be a bit difficult for some people," says Dr. McGann, "but the pay-off is well worth it. Once you establish a habit of regular exercise, you're guaranteed to feel better. Just remember to set realistic goals for yourself and not overdo it at the beginning. The important thing to remember is that it's better to get a little exercise every day than it is to work out infrequently for long periods of time." In addition to feeling better, regular exercise helps Older Adults maintain their independence.

> *"Exercise helps you stay up and about, and enhances your overall quality of life," says Dr. McGann. "When you feel good, you're more likely to have an active social and intellectual life, which promotes emotional and mental health, as well."*

For overall health maintenance, Dr. McGann advises seeing a primary care physician who has a special interest in Older Adults. Your doctor can help you create a diet and exercise plan for enhanced health, and should work with you to keep your medications at a minimum. Remember to keep an up-to-date record of medicines and exact dosages in your billfold at all times, in case of emergencies.

Better health is more than a one-time goal, it's also a way of life. The sooner you take responsibility for your good health, the sooner you'll enjoy the benefits!

Forging Closer Family Ties In Retirement

An Interview With Doug Cole, Executive Director,
Council on Christian Life and Public Affairs, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

Forging closer family ties is a desirable goal at any stage in life, but in retirement, the benefits can be extraordinary—and not only for the retiree. Well-developed relationships that cross generational lines can provide a source of profound satisfaction and well-being.

Nina Cole, Sybil Kirk and Doug Cole

Dr. Cole's family discovered the advantages of multi-generational living when the family decided some years ago to buy a house that would accommodate not only Doug and his wife, Nina, and their daughters, Rebekah and Laura, but also Nina's mother, Sybil Kirk, a retired R.N. who had recently suffered a stroke. It took the better part of a year, but the family finally located a home that would provide adequate space—both physical and psychological—for everyone.

Living together was a new experience for the extended family. The house afforded Sybil plenty of privacy with a downstairs apartment and separate entrance, as well as plenty of space for the Coles' busy lives. It also offered a wonderful opportunity for the family to share their lives with each other more fully. "Living together with Sybil has forged closer family ties for us. It's also taught us a lot," says Dr. Cole, Executive Director of the Council on Christian Life and Public Affairs at the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

> *"We learned early on how important open communications are. It's important to know the needs and concerns of each family member, as they relate to others in the household. And sharing responsibility for our household has been a wonderful relationship-builder.*

"One of the best things that we have gained from living together is becoming familiar with and sensitive to the changes that occur in family members of different generations," Dr. Cole continues. "Our daughters have seen us struggle with family life and work, for me with the Convention, and for Nina as director of nursing at a large medical practice. They've seen their grandmother experience the changes inherent in retirement. And Sybil has seen all that, plus had a bird's eye view of what it's like to be young in today's culture."

While living together is not an option for everyone, there are many ways to strengthen family ties. There's no investment that pays a dividend to match time spent with your family—whether it's time shared over the dinner table, tackling a family project, or taking up a hobby together. The key, according to Dr. Cole, is to keep the lines of communication open, in marriage, with parents, children and grandchildren.

Your Passport To Active Retirement

An Interview With Seth Macon, Trustee Emeritus, Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Inc.

For many people, retirement is a passport to self-discovery and personal expansion. It's a time of meaningful community engagement and active contribution. And it is truly a world away from the proverbial rocking chair. There are no special visas required—just an attitude that welcomes new experience and the willingness to create and pursue opportunity.

Seth and Hazel Macon

Seth Macon, a retired insurance executive who lives in Greensboro, offers a prime example of just how active retirement can be. Retired in 1984 at age 65, he has continued his role as a community and church leader. His many accomplishments include helping to found the Piedmont Interfaith Council, a group dedicated to building bridges between people of different faiths; serving First Baptist Church in Greensboro in a variety of leadership roles; and working as a trustee for numerous boards, including Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina Inc. and his alma mater, Guilford College.

"If you'll work for free, you'll get lots of offers in retirement," says Macon with a chuckle.

Retirement has also allowed the luxury of plenty of time for travel with his wife, Hazel. The Macons' travel scrapbook includes a safari to Kenya, travel to the Galapagos Islands, Australia and New Zealand, and most recently, to Japan and China. Each trip creates new opportunities for learning—one of the recognized keys to a satisfying retirement. "It's a great experience to see the world from another point of view," says Macon.

Designing life in retirement is an opportunity to create the balance which isn't always achievable during other phases in life. It's important to design a framework rich in variety, including pursuits you can enjoy alone and with others, physical activity and intellectual challenges. Taking a class—perhaps learning to play a musical instrument or a new sport—can expand your horizons in wonderful new ways. Volunteer work is another deeply satisfying avenue to explore, as Seth Macon can attest.

Clearly, there's no single road to a satisfying, active retirement—there are as many ways to enjoy life and to contribute as there are retirees. But there is one thing that contented retirees have in common, and that's an ageless openness to new experiences.

Continuing Your Spiritual Growth

An Interview With Calvin Knight, Chaplain, Brookridge Retirement Community

Retirement opens many compelling new paths for Older Adults to explore, yet it is the continuing journey toward spiritual maturity that offers the deepest rewards, says the Reverend Calvin Knight, Chaplain at the Brookridge Retirement Community in Winston-Salem.

"The scriptural admonition, 'Grow in grace and in knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ,' has no cut-off date," says Knight. "Spiritual maturity is not a goal that we reach—it's a path that we continue to travel. By reading and studying the scriptures, the Gospels in particular, we can increase our intellectual understanding of the nature and purpose of Christ," says Reverend Knight. "That kind of knowledge is essential to our spiritual growth."

Reverend Calvin Knight

To know Christ in a personal way, approach the scriptures with an open mind and heart, as well as a reverent spirit, advises Reverend Knight. "A disciplined devotional life, in which we read, pray, sing, write or simply 'be still', is an important key toward this kind of grace. And there's simply no substitute for dedicating your time toward this important goal." It also requires participation in the life of the church as we receive from and contribute to the growth of other believers. "One of our Baptist Retirement Homes' residents provided a wonderful example of the power of a church family," says Reverend Knight.

> *"I asked her about her family and she replied, 'I have a wonderful family, though not one of them is blood kin. The members of my church are my family. I love every one of them, and I could not get along without them. They love me; they teach me; they give me support… they help me in so many ways.' "*

Making a commitment to dedicate time toward deepening your relationship with Jesus Christ and His church is without doubt one of the most rewarding aspects of retirement, says Reverend Knight. "It is a deeply fulfilling, uplifting journey toward true grace. And it's never too late to start down that wondrous path."

Countdown To Retirement: A Planning Guide

Planning ahead is the key to a secure and comfortable retirement. Use this handy guide as a reference for laying the groundwork for your retirement years.

Topic	5+ Years In Advance	2 Years In Advance	3 Months In Advance	During Retirement
Investments	Plan financial goals for retirement; adjust portfolio to meet goals	Adjust portfolio to reduce market risk and increase income	Make adjustments to offset inflation	Talk with broker about best mix of stocks, bonds, etc.
Budgets	Draw up current and future budgets; plan to pay off debts by retirement	Update budgets	Adjust retirement budget to add any new expenses	Revise budgets annually to match projected and actual spending
Retirement Funds	Project monthly and lump sum pension payments	Create investment plan for retirement funds; plan how to minimize taxes	Plan how to access your money; penalty-free withdrawals, etc.	Minimum withdrawals from tax-deferred plans may be required at age 70½
Contingency Funds	Invest equivalent of 3 months expenses in money market or equivalent funds	Establish home equity credit line in case of emergency	Home equity credit line and cash should equal annual expenses	Maintain full year's expenses in money market or equivalent fund
Housing	Make decisions about where you will live in retirement; if remaining in home, fund improvements while employed	If selling home, visit potential retirement locations; if not, budget for future home repairs	If selling home, market it 3-6 months prior to retirement	After age 55, take one-time capital gains tax exemption on the sale; don't sell before 55 unless you are buying another home
Health Insurance	Research what your benefits will be following retirement	If you require individual coverage, research plans now	File application for coverage 1 month before retirement	Assume Medicare coverage at 65; research supplemental plans 1 month in advance

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didn't know until they arrived that she was deaf. Unable to communicate with her, they returned to the feeding unit only to discover that while they were gone, a young man from Albany, GA, had arrived to volunteer, and he knew sign language. "That's one of those times when you ask yourself, 'Why did he just come that morning? Why did he go there and not somewhere else?'," said Nance. "It's because God knows ahead of time what we have to do so He prepares ahead of time what we need."

And those who are normally resistant to the Gospel message find themselves listening. A close friend of Mary Ellen Benton had invited her college age niece and a friend, both from Japan, for a visit to Wilmington. They arrived one day before Hurricane Fran struck. But just like Winter Park's seeker service, which was also planned months earlier, God would use their trip to demonstrate His greater purposes. "Those two young women came and helped me serve on the food line," said Benton. "They're not Christians, and it was a real eye-opener for them about Christian ministries. They were so impressed, probably because they'd never seen Christians do anything besides go to church. I think it planted a seed in their hearts."

Age didn't make a difference either when God chose to use a person to reach others during the relief efforts. Benton remembers a 12 year old boy named Jonathan who wanted desperately to help at the feeding unit but was told he was too young. "He seemed so unhappy," said Benton, "so I suggested he be our public relations person. Then he brightened up and went outside. I thought he was out greeting people at the door, but later someone came in and said, 'Jonathan's out in the street, stopping traffic and telling people dinner is served at 5 p.m.!'"

What amazed Brooks most about the entire Baptist relief effort was the contrast it made to earlier ones. Her husband, Lamar, was Winter Park's pastor when Hurricane Diana hit the southeastern N.C. coast in the late 1980's. "The only disaster response we received from Baptists was a truck filled with water and canned food from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. A few students came, but as far as organized Baptist relief efforts, that was it. What has developed has been phenomenal. Compare what happened to us then with serving 185,000 meals out of Winter Park's parking lot this time. We have a lot to be grateful to God and to the Southern Baptists for."

Hurricane Fran Summary—Over 500,000 Meals Served

Feeding: All together more than 500,000 meals were served after Hurricane Fran from Baptist feeding units across eastern North Carolina. Below is a listing of the feeding locations, units who worked there, and the number of meals served:

Locations	*Baptist Feeding Unit*	*# Of Meals*
Winter Park Church, Wilmington	*North Carolina Unit 1 and 3*	*192,844*
Wrightsboro Church, Wilmington	*South Carolina Unit 3*	*33,957*
Snyder Memorial Church, Fayetteville	*Florida Unit*	*45,180*
Forest Hills Church, Wilson	*South Carolina Unit*	*59,244*
First Church, Burgaw	*Georgia Unit 1*	*23,306*
Warsaw Church, Warsaw	*Georgia Unit 2*	*21,775*
Aversboro Church, Garner	*Alabama Unit 5*	*1,407*
New River Association, Jacksonville	*Kentucky Unit*	*35,383*
First Church, Goldsboro	*North Carolina Unit 2*	*35,289*
First Church, Kinston	*North Carolina Unit 2*	*10,000*
Hillside High School, Durham	*Yates Unit*	*5,000*

Recovery/Clean-Up:

Major clean-up staging areas were established at the following locations:

New Hope Church, Raleigh; Winter Park Church, Wilmington; Wrightsboro Church, Wilmington; New River Associational Office, Jacksonville; First Church, Clinton; Warsaw Church, Warsaw; First Church, Goldsboro; First Church, Smithfield.

More than 1,000 volunteers reported to these locations to do chain saw jobs, debris removal, "mud outs," and other Hurricane Fran clean-up. All together more than 1,000 jobs have been completed so far by these volunteers. Clean-up crews are still needed. Please contact N.C. Baptist Men's office if you have volunteers from your church who would be willing to serve on a volunteer clean-up team. For more information, call (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100 ext. 333, 341, or 331.

The Disaster Relief Ministry is funded by your gifts to the N.C. Missions Offering. Thank you for helping others in Jesus' name!

Paul Wilson
State Disaster Relief Coordinator
P.O. Box 2763
Salisbury, N.C. 28145
(704) 637–6735

Disaster Relief Training Set

On April 18–19 NCBM will offer Disaster Relief Training at two locations: N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell) in Southport and Camp Truett in Hayesville. Three tracts will be offered: Feeding, Recovery, and Emergency Child Care. The cost will be $40.00 per person. Registration will open Jan. 1. Check the appropriate item on the back page to request registration information.

Tips For Fathers

TOP 7 WORST WAYS TO SPEND TIME WITH YOUR KIDS

7. Serve as their human quarter machine at the video arcade.
6. Have the NBA Game of the Week on while you're playing Monopoly with them.
5. Read the paper while helping them with their algebra assignments.
4. Go to the local high school football field to practice your short-irons and have them collect the golf balls after you're done.
3. Suggest they take a nap with you on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.
2. Drive them to Cub Scouts and read a magazine in the car while the den mother instructs them on how to tie knots.
1. Take them to your office on Saturday and have them color while you work.

Being A Good Dad When You're On The Road

God's role for the father as head of the home should be the norm for families; yet in millions of households, Dad won't be home tonight. If you have to be out of town, here are some things you can do:

1. The night before you leave on a business trip, organize a treasure hunt for the kids.
2. Call home every day.
3. Do something special with each child before you leave for the trip.
4. If your trip is a long one, send postcards or letters each day.
5. While presents from each trip is occasionally a must, don't believe gifts can soften the blow of your not being around.
6. *Cancel—or shorten*—a few business trips if possible and tell your kids you did it because you couldn't stand leaving them again.

N.C. Baptist Assembly Will Offer 1997 Father-Child Retreats

Father/Daughter Retreat—March 21–22, 1997
Father/Son Retreat—May 9–10, 1997

The North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell) held three action-packed father-child retreats in 1996 based on the theme "Treasure Island." Fathers and their children had opportunities to talk, laugh together, and play together. Norman Jameson, director of communications for Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, was the guest speaker for the retreats.

The Assembly will bring back the father-child retreats in 1997 but with a different theme. This spring, fathers and daughters can enjoy their own weekend retreat March 21–22; fathers and sons are invited to come May 9–10. Fall dates will be announced later. For more information, call the N.C. Baptist Assembly at (910) 278–9501.

Dennie Crowder
State Family Foundations Coordinator
9705 Stony Hill Lane
Charlotte, N.C. 28277
(704) 541–7760

Reaching Out At Christmas

1. Visit a nursing home on Christmas afternoon. Take along little favors to pass out. This is an especially lonely time for those few who have not been picked up for the day.
2. Invite a foreign student or a single person to Christmas dinner.
3. Buy or borrow the Christmas story in flannelgraph figures and have neighborhood children over for a party, using the story as the main feature. Your kids may want to practice ahead of time and do the presentation.
4. Do something totally unexpected for a neighbor—shovel the snow from his or her driveway or parking place while he or she is at work, for example.
5. At dinner each evening, pray for those whose Christmas cards arrived in your mailbox that day.
6. Create a "Party in a Package"—hot chocolate mix, cookies, napkins, cups, placemats—and then go enjoy it with some surprised family you know.
7. Study the Christmas customs of a country where missionaries you know are living. Pattern your holiday after theirs if you can. Then write and tell them how it went.

Home Missions Projects

During the night of September 5, and early morning of September 6, 1996, God significantly changed the landscape of central and eastern North Carolina. Because of Hurricane Fran, many of our Homeland Mission volunteers have been busy helping with Disaster Relief and Disaster Recovery. At the writing of this report, there is much work yet to be done to help families with clean-up and repair of damaged buildings. This is an excellent opportunity for Handyman Ministry groups to help poor and elderly families with repairs to damaged buildings. If your group can help with any of these needs call the Baptist Men's Office. (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 335 or ext. 333, for a list of continuing needs.

Pittsboro Church, Hispanic Mission Pittsboro

Volunteers work every Saturday, hoping to complete this project by the year's end. Volunteers are needed who can help with the sheetrock work, finish interior work, installation of plumbing and electrical work. If you can help, contact Bill Poindexter (919) 542–3819.

Community Missionary Church, Havelock

The church dedication service was held the first of October, with approximately 200 in attendance. The first service was held in the building on October 20. The building has a seating capacity of 125, and the average attendance recently has been 150. Therefore, it is now necessary for the church to begin having two services each Sunday. Keith Hamilton said, "If it weren't for Baptist Men, this project would never have happened." Continue to pray for this congregation.

Main Street Church, China Grove

At this writing, the church is in its finishing stages. Pastor Beaver expressed sincere appreciation to all those who have helped with this project. The congregation is excited about the move. We pray that this group of believers will continue to grow in faith and number. The dedication date has not been set but if you would like to attend, call Larry Beaver at (704) 857–0871 (home) or (704) 855–3274 (church).

Friendship Church, Greensboro

This church building is to be roofed by November 1. The volunteers needed at this time include: electrical rough-in, insulation, some interior framing, sheetrock hanging and finishing, and exterior finish work. To volunteer, contact Barry Neely at the Piedmont Association (910) 275–7651.

Camp Mundo Vista, Asheboro

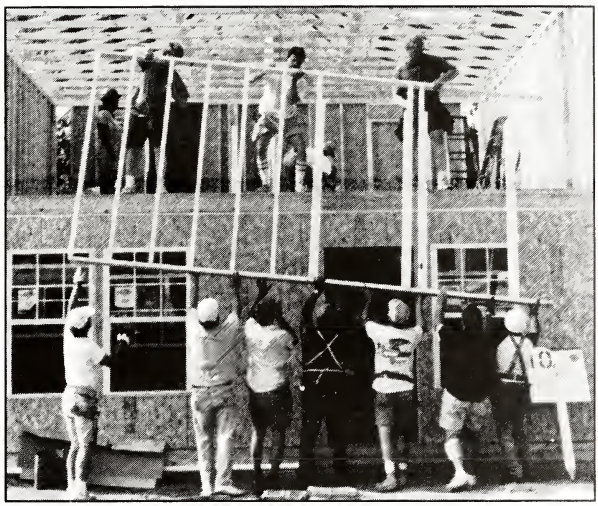
Work is continuing throughout the winter and spring, updating and winterizing the cabins at this GA Camp. Volunteers are needed for all kinds of work on this project. Bob Wainwright, (919) 693–5004, is working very hard securing volunteers for this very important work. When you can help on Saturday or during the week, call Bob Navey at (910) 629–4213.

N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell)

The staff of the North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell) would like to thank all the churches that have helped in this year's construction and renovation projects. We finished renovating the old horse barn into a beautiful new PX. We also finished renovating one-half of the Oceana Motel. We want to thank all our volunteers who helped us accomplish so much good work. We couldn't have done it without you.

The Assembly still has projects to be finished and new ones to begin. Volunteers of all skill levels are needed for the following projects.

1. Oceana Motel—Volunteers with rough carpentry and other construction skills are needed to continue renovation of the second half of the motel. The interior of the rooms has been gutted. Help with renovating the interior and reroofing the building are needed. Deadline for finishing this second phase of the projects is Spring 1997.



2. Building #31 (Seabreeze)—Volunteers are needed to begin the interior demolition and renovation of this building which will be used as supplemental classroom space and for a summer day camp.

3. Siding replacement—Volunteers with carpentry skills are needed in the on-going work of replacing siding for various buildings.

4. Grounds—Volunteers interested in landscaping are needed in the continued ornamental landscaping siding for various buildings.

5. Forts—Volunteers are needed to help install safety handrails at potentially dangerous fall areas on top of the forts.

The Assembly would like to thank again all those who have helped make Caswell a beautiful, safe place for North Carolina Baptists. If you'd like more information about volunteering, contact David Lloyd, Associate Director, N.C. Baptist Assembly, 100 Caswell Beach Road, Oak Island 28465, telephone (910) 278–9501.

Bill Poindexter
State Home Missions Projects Coordinator
P.O. Box 555
Pittsboro, N.C. 27312
(919) 542–3819

PRAYER SUPPORT

Unreached People Groups

Pray for the Hainanese people group. There are 5 million Hainanese Most of these people live in Hainan (China). Of all the Hainanese people, there are only 20,000 Christians. Pray that the Hainanese will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Hazara people group. There are 1.4 million Hazara. Most of these people live in Afghanistan. Of all the Hazara people, there are only 500 Christians. Pray that the Hazara will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Pray for the Hui people group. There are 8.6 million Hui. Most of these people live in China. Of all the Hui people, there are less than 20 Christians. Pray that the Hui will come to know of God's love for them as revealed in Jesus Christ.

For more information on these or other World A people groups, contact Cathy Ollis at The World A Resource Center, School of Divinity, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, N.C. 28017; (704) 434–4656.

Ed Couch
State Prayer Support Coordinator
3905 Page Road
Morrisville, N.C. 27560
(919) 544–7014

Renewal In The Midst Of Hurricane Fran

Is there anyone in the state of North Carolina who does not know what happened on September 6, 1996? For most people, the early morning hours of that Friday and the following days will be remembered for Hurricane Fran and the devastation that occurred in the eastern and central portions of North Carolina. For the members of Juniper Springs Church, Sanford, September 6 will be remembered as a very special time that we met with our Lord in spite of Fran.

On Thursday evening, as I listened to weather forecasters continue to tell of the possible consequences of this hurricane, I began to think of the months of preparation that had preceded the lay renewal that was scheduled for September 6–8. The planning started in early spring; first with the pastor, Danny Wallace, then with the deacons, and then with the entire church. Many of the normal concerns were expressed by the local coordinators and group leaders: "What will happen during the weekend? We're having trouble getting houses for team members. Not enough team members are coming. Too many team members are coming. We have extra housing." Seemed to me like this would be a typical weekend.

Early Friday morning we found out that there was no power or water at the church. Many members were in the same situation. What would we do? After a few phone calls, and through the encouragement of the pastor, the decision was made— have the lay renewal weekend and let the Holy Spirit lead. Was there any other choice?

When we arrived at the church, I sensed that something special was happening. Never mind the conditions, each team member was served refreshments and presented with a "goodie bag." Some of the ladies had spent an entire Saturday preparing our treats. Members of the church had obtained a generator so we could have water and a couple of lights for the youth and children. The church had planned a country theme for the Friday meal. Even with the conditions, the fellowship hall was elaborately decorated, and we were served barbecue and chicken. By now I knew something special was happening and we hadn't even got into the spiritual food.

One of my prayers during a lay renewal is that the people will not see the team members, but that they will see Jesus Christ. One electric lamp, a few candles and kerosene lamps in the sanctuary added new meaning to this prayer. Each song and testimony fed us spiritually as the Holy Spirit truly put the words in each person's mouth. Small groups were "forced" to gather around a kerosene lamp in each room. The small group time was so special that as we began to adjourn on Friday evening, one of the church members said that even if the lights came back on Saturday he hoped we could leave them off so we could be close together again.

Since many of the host homes did not have power or water, several last-minute housing changes were made. Not only did I go to a different house, but my original host family also spent the weekend with my new host family. Again, the Holy Spirit led us together in the way He knew best.

On Saturday morning the electrical power was restored to the church, but I believe that spiritual power was restored to the church during the previous day. This spirit among church members and with the Holy Spirit continued all day long. Saturday morning my small group met in a home without electricity. I still remember how our coffee host and hostess were more concerned with our group time than they were with the lack of power in their home and the fact that all the food in their freezer was thawing as we met.

We concluded the Saturday night session with a time of family prayer. Many families took advantage of this time to express their love to each other. One family, of about thirty, prayed together for more than an hour. As we left the church around eleven o'clock that evening, I heard comments such as: "We need to do this more often," "That was great," "We've needed to do this for a long time."

Sunday was a very special time for the church. Again, each testimony, song, and prayer seemed to be just what we needed. One young lady was saved during the service. The altar was covered two and three deep during the invitation. Many made new decisions to follow Christ more closely. Sunday evening's service lasted more than three hours. During this time, many commitments were made to be a part of a small group.

The Spirit continues to work in the lives at Juniper Springs. On a recent return trip, I learned that several others have come to know Christ since the renewal. Most recently, even the local coordinator got saved.

God continues to show us that if we allow Him to lead, He is still in the miracle business. He can do anything if we will follow Him in obedience. For those who attended the lay renewal at Juniper Springs, God turned the devastation of Hurricane Fran into something beautiful.

(Testimony by Steve Reavis, Elon College—Lay Renewal Coordinator)

If you would like to experience the moving of the Holy Spirit in your church through Lay Renewal, please contact me at the address or phone number below or check the appropriate item on the back page to receive a packet of information.

Cameron Norris
State Lay Renewal Coordinator
3471 Bassett Street, SW
Shallotte, N.C. 28459
(910) 754-4839

LAY REVIVAL

Share Your Faith

Jesus said for you and me to tell others about Him. We who believe and trust Jesus are really the only witnesses that He has. How can you tell others if you yourself don't know or believe in Jesus? Yet it is real easy to brag on someone *you know and love. Jesus said, "If I be lifted up, I will draw all men to me."* All we have to do is tell our friends and families about our own experience. The Scriptures tell us in 1 John 5:10 "that he that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself." You know in your heart where you stand with the Lord. So let me encourage you to share your faith. There are 2.5 billion lost people in the world. We all have many opportunities to be a witness for Jesus. We are told that two out of three people we pass by every day are lost. If we are going to win this world for Jesus we must become bold in our witness.

Let me bare my heart to you. I was afraid to share my faith. I was 33 years old when I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior. I did not know anything about the Bible or what it taught about witnessing. I really had a struggle within myself. I was more bold around my church family or my Sunday School class but very shy when I was at work or talking to strangers.

The man that led me to Christ was a real faithful witness. He talked to me several times about telling others about what had happened in my life. I was just too scared to do it. He did not give up on me. He asked me to go with a group to the First Church in Summerset, Kentucky, and I finally agreed to do so. We left on Wednesday and returned at 2 a.m. the following Monday.

We arrived at the church in time for the prayer meeting on Wednesday evening. It was wintertime and very cold. This was my first Baptist Lay Witnessing Foundation (BLWF) experience away from home. Several men were called on to share their testimony and it was exciting. Several people responded to the invitation, and I began to see that these guys were for real. It was exciting to see the Lord work.

The next morning was Thursday and it had snowed about four inches during the night. We got to the church, paired up, and left to see the prospects that the church had given us. At the first house we visited, a lady prayed to receive Christ. I had never felt the way I felt when this woman prayed and asked Christ to come into her heart. I have not kept a record nor do I have any idea how many times I have had that experience. I do know that I am still going and I will continue to go as long as my physical strength will allow me to go.

If you are like I was then, let me encourage you to be involved with BLWF. We have a great group of witnesses, both men and women, who will help you. They will take you with them, and you can be an observer until you gain your courage. We have training at our annual meeting as well as our church meetings. Give us a try. We publish a list of our meetings, and you are welcome to come to any scheduled meeting. Check in with the coordinator and tell him you want to observe and learn. He will also make you feel very welcome.

The only requirement for membership in the BLWF is that you are saved and you are willing to tell others about your experience.

Mike Smith
State Lay Revival Coordinator
22 Ballantree Drive
Asheville, N.C. 28803
(704) 274-4261

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Ukraine Dates Set For 1997

APRIL
6–20; 13–27; 20–May 4;
27–May 11;

MAY
4–18; 11–25; 18–June 1;
25–June 8;

JUNE
1–15; 8–22; 15–29; 22–July 6;
20–July 13;

JULY
6–20; 13–27; 20–Aug. 3;
27–Aug. 10;

AUGUST
3–17; 10–24; 17–31; 24–Sept. 7;
31–Sept. 14;

SEPTEMBER
7–21; 14–28; 21–Oct. 5;
28–Oct. 12;

OCTOBER
5–19; 12–26; 19–Nov. 2;
26–Nov. 9;

NOVEMBER
2–16; 9–23.

Bob Mizelle
State Overseas Missions Coordinator
1626 US 13 North
Windsor, N.C. 27983
(919) 794-3759

Medicines In Ukraine Continue To Be A Need

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, in association with the North Carolina Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship of N.C. Baptist Men, entered into a formal agreement with the Baptist Union of Ukraine to supply medications to the country and people of Ukraine.

An agreement has been worked out with the Missionary Assistance Program (MAP) which has 40 years of experience in sending medications to mission hospitals around the world. We will be able to purchase medications at close to a 50 to 1 purchase advantage, that is, for every dollar we will be given 50 dollars of wholesale medications. Further, MAP packages these and will ship these medicines free from their MAP headquarters in Georgia to Kiev, Ukraine.

We encourage your churches to immediately begin a fundraising drive to raise money whether it be $100, $500, $1000, or whatever amount. Contributions are needed because currently Ukraine can manufacture no medications in the country and, secondly, they are unable to purchase medications with their own currency. As soon as you have money for this endeavor, please send it to N.C. Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512-1107.

To date, two million dollars worth of medicines have already been shipped. We are excited for you to participate in this endeavor as we supply assistance to the people of Ukraine!

For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Oakmont Church's Medical Mission To Ukraine

BY BERNARD VICK, M.D., FACS, MEMBER OF OAKMONT CHURCH, GREENVILLE, N.C.

On September 28, 1996, 11 members of Oakmont Church, Greenville, N.C. departed the parking lot with the support and prayers of many of the members. In Raleigh we were joined by Jim Gosney, a dentist from near Danville, VA. He quickly became an adopted member of our church.

Four physicians specialists, three pharmacists, two nurses, one laboratory technologist, and one physical therapist comprised our group. None had been on a mission trip before.

September 29 we landed in Odessa, Ukraine. Incidentally, we were the first medical group to go to Odessa. The support of Gene Kirby, N.C. Ukraine Coordinator, and Dale Ledbetter, International Board of the Southern Baptist Convention—Baptists of Ukraine, was superb in every way.

We stayed at the Ukraine Theological Seminary. We enjoyed our interaction with the students, and some served at times as our language interpreters.

Giving primary care in church related clinics was part of our mission. The second week was spent by the physicians giving lectures/discussions in several of the hospitals. The pharmacist were very busy getting drugs inventoried and dispensed to the proper places. They spent several days in Kiev.

The Ukranians are cheerful, enthusiastic, intelligent, and very devoted in their religion. Their churches are growing rapidly. Our group learned so much from their examples of faith. We are truly one people in God.

Our entire church family benefited equally from the trip. The prayers and support, in every way, by our church and our church staff, made God's work easy. Please keep the people of Ukraine in your hears and prayers—they deserve and need them.

Ron Halbrooks
State Medical Missions Coordinator
5419 Highland Drive
Durham, N.C. 27712
(919) 383-5757

Ukraine Medical/Dental Project Dates

July 20–August 3, 1997 — Dneperpetrovsk

July 6–20, 1997 — Donetsk

July 1997 — Odessa

July or October 1997 — Kisenov/Moldova

July 13–27, 1997 — Kharkov (Dental Team)

August 3–17, 1997 — Simferopol

"See College Days" For RA Groups

Several college campuses across the state will be the scene for "See College Days" in upcoming months. "See College Days" is an opportunity for RA, Challengers, or other church youth groups to tour local Baptist college campuses, enjoy a program and lunch, and see an exciting college ballgame. The following college campuses will be conducting "See College Days" events in the coming months:

February 8—Campbell University vs. Central Florida in basketball; registration 8:30–10:30 a.m.; program 10:45; ballgame 3 p.m.; cost $4.50/person; contact Jerry Woods (800) 334–4111.

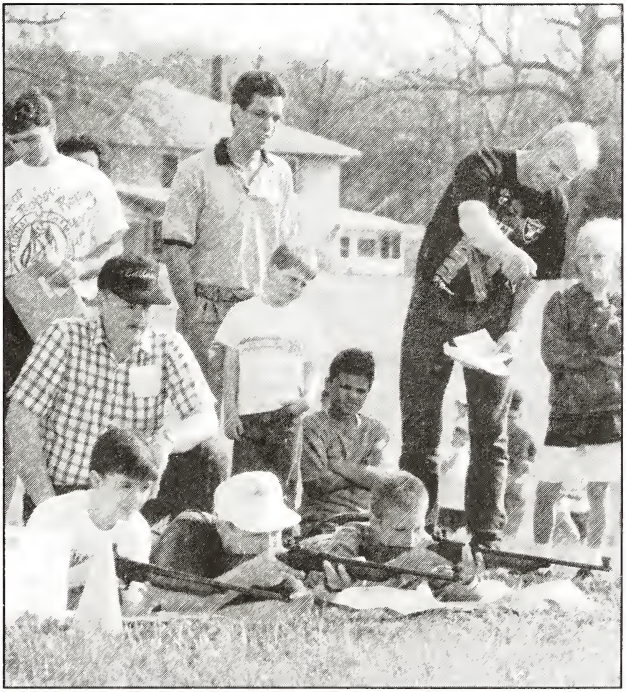
February 15—Wingate University vs. Carson-Newman in basketball; program and lunch; registration begins at 11 a.m.; game begins 2 p.m.; cost—$6/person; contact Anne Lida (704) 233–8026.

February 22—Gardner-Webb University vs. Wingate University in basketball; program and lunch—$9.50/person; program begins at 3 p.m.; women's game begins at 5:45 p.m.; men's game to follow; contact Brant Reezes (704) 434–4492.

Lad/Crusader RA Congress Date Set For April 12

The Lad/Crusader Royal Ambassador Congress is one of the most exciting days for Royal Ambassadors across our state. Boys and their counselors come from all over to participate in fun field day activities, compete in an air rifle shooting contest, hear a missionary speaker and Christian entertainer, display entries in the missions fair, and more. The RA Congress is also the place for the associational RA Racer winner and runner-ups to compete on the state level.

This year's date is Saturday, April 12. Three sites will host the RA Congress. The western congress will be at East Burke Middle School just off I-40 in Icard. The central congress will be at Mills Children's Home in Thomasville. The eastern congress site is unconfirmed at this time. Cost is only $5 per person and includes the program and lunch. Information and a registration form will be available in January. Put this date on your calendar and we'll see you at the RA Congress! For more information about this event, please check the appropriate box on the back page.



Participating in air rifle safety and Field Day events.

Opportunity To Serve At Camp Caraway

"It sure wasn't an easy job—but it's probably the most meaningful thing I have ever done with my life." This is a quote that Mark Abernathy, director of Camp Caraway, has heard many times throughout the years from various young men who have served as counselors at camp. In fact, it's a statement that he himself has used many times since working as a staffer in the mid-1980's. "Camp Caraway offers young Christian men a unique experience combining Christian giving and Christian growth," Abernathy says. "A staffer's job is to oversee the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of his campers 24 hours a day. That's a big responsibility. But as I've told young men over the years, camp gives you back much more than you can ever give it. Part of the benefit comes in working on staff with other dedicated and growing young Christian men who act as a support group, praying for and keeping each other accountable. But the biggest gift is learning how to love the boys in your cabin and being used of the Lord to introduce many of them to Christ."

Sixteen college-aged counselors serve on the staff along with six rising high school seniors, called counselors-in-training (CITs). A lifeguard is also hired for the summer. The summer consists of nine weeks, beginning in 1997 on June 8 and concluding August 8. The first week is orientation, during which the staff learn all the basics of working with and ministering to boys. Prospective staff members fill out an application form available through the North Carolina Baptist Men's office. They then have a personal interview with the camp director. All positions at camp are salaried, with counselors and lifeguard making up to $110 a week and CITs up to $70 a week.

If you know a young man who is a growing Christian, loves the outdoors, and would like to make a real difference in the lives of other young people this summer, please contact the N.C. Baptist Men's office (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext. 335, for more information and an application or check the appropriate item on the back page.

Camp Kid-Care Offers A Break To Burdened Children

On August 8, 15 very special children arrived at Camp Caraway for the very first time. These boys and girls were the first ever campers to attend Camp Kid-Care, a joint effort between North Carolina Baptist Men and Baptist Aids Partnership of North Carolina. Each camper who attended was either HIV positive or has an immediate family member who is. They spent three days and two nights at camp enjoying what other boys and girls often take for granted—the chance to be a kid.

"Many of these kids are forced to grow up pretty fast considering the circumstances they face," shared Mark Abernathy, program director for Camp Caraway. "The emotional burden of having a loved one infected by a serious disease can be immense. We wanted to give these kids a chance to just get away from it all for a while—a chance to run and play like other children." Camp Caraway summer staffers volunteered to act as counselors, along with Mitzi Fulbright, a junior from Mars Hill College. Two doctors and two nurses also volunteered their time, following each cabin group throughout their activities. Fred Loper, a home missionary from Oklahoma, served as camp pastor for the week. An opening night puppet show, led by a group from Asheboro's Center of Living led the children in opening up to discussion about the feelings associated with death and dying.

Several church members from across the state provided transportation to and from camp. Sponsorship came largely from a portion of the summer missions offering taken at the North Carolina Baptist Assembly (Caswell). Plans are being made for next year's edition of Camp Kid-Care. If the smiles and hugs of these 15 children are any indication, it will again be a worthwhile effort. Look for more information on Camp Kid-Care in future editions of *Men on Mission*.

1997 Challengers Convention

The Challengers' Convention will be held in Asheboro on March 21–22. This year's event will be an exciting one. The special speaker will be from the Carolina Panthers on Friday night. Saturday will be filled with different sport contests as well as mission events. New this year will be the addition of the Challengers State Track Meet. The young men can sign up for their events at the convention. There will be a trophy given to the church with most points in each age division as well as overall. Medals will be given to each individual winner. The program cost is $10 per person. Registration deadline is March 14. For more information and registration, check the appropriate item on the back page or call Jimmy Huffman at (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, Ext. 342.

Camp Angel Tree Ministry Continues

For the third straight year Camp Caraway was the stage for a gathering of rambunctious boys anticipating a fun week at camp. All of these 84 boys had one thing in common—a parent in prison. This is Camp Angel Tree, sponsored by North Carolina Baptist Men and Prison Fellowship of North Carolina. Baptists from across the state devote their time to transport these boys to and from camp. The goal of Camp Angel Tree is to provide these boys a positive Christian male role model—something many of them have never had. By doing so, the cycle of crime which is a part of these boys' backgrounds can be broken. Not only do these campers participate in fun and challenging physical activities, they also are exposed to the love and word of Christ through Bible studies, nightly devotions, and time spent with their counselor.

As has happened in previous summers, many of these boys made decisions during the Thursday night commitment service. Twenty-nine stood to accept Christ as Savior and were counseled afterward. But the challenge does not stop there. "Most of these boys come from environments which are not conducive to Christian growth," says Mark Abernathy, program director for Camp Caraway. "Our hope is that the local churches who were involved with bringing the boys to camp will also make an effort to be proactive in getting them regularly involved in local church activities." Another way of achieving continued growth is to get boys to come back to camp year after year. About 40 percent of the boys this year were returners from the year before.

The cost of sponsoring a boy for Camp Angel Tree is $95. If you would be interested in doing so, or would like to help with transporting a child to and from camp, please check the appropriate box on the back page of this magazine.

Coed Options For Children's Missions Education

This fall the Brotherhood Commission has introduced MissionKids, a coed program designed to teach boys and girls, grades 1–6, about missions and to involve them in missions projects. MissionKids offers children an opportunity to learn about missions through the experience of MKs (missionary kids). Stories are told through the eyes of children of missionaries, who explain what their parents do on the mission field. The program is based on an easy-to-prepare three-part weekly meeting which includes 20 minutes of missions games and activities, 20 minutes of missions story time, and 20 minutes of activity book time. Curriculum consists of one leader's book which contains session plans and reproducible story pages for a full year, a training section for leaders, and a planning/record keeping section for organizing. There are also individual activity books which each child works in throughout the course of the year based on what grade he or she is in school. Children can earn a certificate by participating in MissionKids during the course of the year. The same certificates can be dressed up by earning an activity book completion ribbon and elective stamps throughout the year. The program includes ideas for involving children in monthly missions projects and activities, as well as fun interest activities.

Woman's Missionary Union also has a coed program called Children in Action. Children in Action shares a similar purpose in teaching children about missions and involving them in missions projects. Children in Action, as its abbreviation would suggest, is based on a "detective" theme. A resource kit comes monthly and also includes material that can be reproduced to share with children.

Neither program is designed to take the place of Royal Ambassadors or Girls in Action. Rather, they are designed for churches with limited leadership, children, or budget, who do not have an RA or GA program in their church. To get more information on these options, please check the box on the back page of this edition or call (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, ext 335.

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Winter 1997, For additional information and registration, check the appropriate block and mail this back page (with the label) to: North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

- ❑ N.C. Baptist Missions Conference & Men's Convention (p. 4)
- ❑ 40 Ways To Thank Your Pastor (p. 5)
- ❑ Send Baptist Men's Day Information (p. 5)

NCBM Hats @ $7 (p. 7)

❑ Black	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Teal	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Forest Green	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Burgundy	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Purple	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Navy	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$_____

NCBM T-shirts @ $6 (p. 7) — Color: White

❑ Adult large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult XX-large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$_____

RA T-shirts @ $6 (p. 7) — Color: Light Blue

❑ Boys 14-16	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult small	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult medium	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$_____

Challengers T-shirts @ $6 (p. 7) — Color: Ashe

❑ Adult Small	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult Medium	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
❑ Adult XX-large	*Quantity*_____ = Total	$_____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$_____

- ❑ 'Hands On' Mission Workshop (p. 7)
- ❑ Needed: Sports-minded Coaches & Young Men (p. 10)
- ❑ Disaster Relief Training Set (p. 14)
- ❑ Renewal In The Midst Of Hurricane Fran (p. 18)
- ❑ Medicines In Ukraine Continue To Be A Need (p. 20)
- ❑ Lad/Crusader Royal Amabassador Congress Date Set (p. 21)
- ❑ Opportunity To Serve At Camp Caraway (p. 22)
  # _____ of applications needed
- ❑ Camp Angel Tree Ministry Continues (p. 23)
- ❑ Coed Options For Children's Missions Education (p. 23)

TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCES

- ❑ 1997 Challengers Convention, March 21–22, Asheboro. Cost: $10/person. *Registration deadline is March 14.*
  #_____ persons attending @ $10 = Total $_____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone: Office_____ Home_____

Church_____ Association_____

Leadership Position_____

Registration Fee (if applicable) $_____ Number in group (if applicable)_____

(Make checks payable to North Carolina Baptist Men.)

Are you getting 'too many' copies of this newsletter? If you are getting multiple copies of this newsletter, please return this back page (with label), from each newsletter you received. Thanks!

Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 1107, Cary N.C. 27512-1107

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